

**2021 REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 8, 2021  
VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING**

Present:

Paul H. Smith	Supervisor
Patrick Britton	Councilman
Susan Storms	Councilman
Frank Skvorak	Councilman
Shari Gerber	Councilman
Lori Borland	Town Clerk
Michael O'Shaughnessy	Highway Superintendent
Jim Yuhas	Bookkeeper
Mickey Dietrich	RACOG Circuit Rider
Mary Ann Yuhas	Clerk to Supervisor
Terry McKeever	Code Enforcement Officer
James Burrows, Esq.	Town Attorney
Shannon Allegria	Facilitator

Supervisor Smith called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Motion was made by Councilman Britton, seconded by Councilman Gerber to approve the minutes from the Organizational meeting held on January 11, 2021 and the regular meeting held on January 11, 2021. Unanimously passed, carried.

Privilege of the Floor: Mickey Dietrich, Circuit Rider for RACOG noted that the next RACOG meeting will be February 17, 2021 and discussion will be on the Black River Trail. Village of Lowville has joined RACOG; LED Lighting project is moving ahead; By-Laws are being revised to include Village of Lowville joining.

Communications: None

Community Development Director Report: Sarah Bullock reported that a Main Street Grant application was submitted on January 15, 2021 for \$100,000 grant request for a \$135,000 project to renovate 268-272 State Street. There was a second application submitted by the CIDC and is a Technical Assistance Grant to study the feasibility and reuse of the old railroad depot in Carthage. The owner is contributing a 5% match required for the grant. She is also following up on other grant funding leads and attending webinars for housing needs and brownfield development and outreach to local businesses regarding marketing of properties.

Town Highway Superintendent Report: Michael O'Shaughnessy turned in his yearly inventory list. He has one employee in quarantine. Snow removal has been done at the Town offices and the snowbanks are being cut back. Regarding the plans for the replacement of the roof on the town barn, Bernier and Carr are authorized to move ahead with the plans.

Dog Control Officer Report: Justin Hall, DCO reported that after the fatal fire in the Village of Deferiet, the two dogs have been adopted.

Town Clerk Report: Water district collections for January were \$10,411.90. Town Clerk fees for January were \$514.00. Transfer site fees collected for January were \$3903.00.

Code Enforcement Officer Report: Terry McKeever noted that he has issued some permits and correspondence on a solar project which needs to go before the Planning Board. He reported that there was a building that collapsed in Natural Bridge due to snowload. The Highway Dept. took down the remainder of the building and has been cordoned off. Spring clean up is to be done. There is a solar meeting scheduled for a project on the Ridge Road, and it was noted to keep Mike O'Shaughnessy in the loop regarding load limits and to recover any costs from the County.

Assessor's Report: None

Attorney's Report: Attorney Burrows noted that there is a labor personnel matter that needs to be discussed. Regarding the Unsafe Buildings and Structure Law, the Town has 60 days to adopt this law, which would be to tackle blight and the county must reimburse the town for any clean up costs. A public hearing needs to be scheduled for this. There are tax assessment challenges that need to be discussed in Executive Session.

Town Supervisor's Report: Motion was made by Councilman Storms, seconded by Councilman Gerber to approve the January Supervisor's Report. Unanimously passed, carried.

Vouchers: Motion was made by Councilman Britton, seconded by Councilman Gerber, to approve the vouchers in Abstract #2 in the amount of \$1,747,821.54. Unanimously passed, carried.

Old Business: None

New Business: Motion was made by Councilman Storms, seconded by Councilman Britton to approve the budget transfers as provided. Unanimously passed, carried.

Regarding the Shared Services Agreement with NYS DOT, motion was made by Councilman Britton, seconded by Councilman Gerber to approve the agreement for two years and authorize Supervisor Smith to sign the same. Unanimously passed, carried.

Attorney Burrows provided a draft copy of a Development Agreement that can be used between the Town and potential developers. After reviewing the same, motion was made by Councilman Storms, seconded by Councilman Gerber to accept the Development Agreement for future use with various developers to make sure the costs are borne by the developer and not the Town. Unanimously passed, carried.

There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Councilman Britton, seconded by Councilman Gerber to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

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Lori Borland, Town Clerk